

# THREE BIG REASONS TO HOP ONBOARD

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## Rail Relieves Congestion

The NBC Today Show recently stated that Honolulu's H1 is the #1 most congested highway in America. Honolulu is ranked 38<sup>th</sup> on the list of the nation's 100 Most Congested Metro Areas by the INRIX National Traffic Score Card.

If you think congestion is bad now, wait a few years. By the year 2030 there will be an estimated 30% more travel on Oahu.

### **We need a Rail System to reduce Traffic Congestion in Honolulu.**

- Rail is the key to a world-class transportation system. It will provide more than 90,000 passenger trips a day. That's about 40,000 fewer vehicles on Oahu's crowded roads. We need much more than what the bus system alone can deliver.
- Especially during peak periods, rail transit acts as a pressure-relief valve by reducing traffic in high-volume corridors and benefiting all travelers including those who choose to drive.
- Riders can read, listen to music, even do work or simply relax while traveling to their destination.

## Rail Improves the Environment

Public transportation generates 95% less Carbon Monoxide than personal vehicles for every passenger mile traveled.

- A rail system in Honolulu will take tens of thousands of people out of their cars.
- It means less pollution, less global warming, and less need to build more highways that further damage our environment.
- Rail also reduces our dependence on foreign oil. According to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), there are 300,000 less fill-ups at the gas pump everyday because of the nation's public transportation in systems. That's nearly 4 billion gallons a year.

## Rail Enhances Future Growth

To deal with our state's anticipated growth, we need to support a transportation system that helps people make fewer trips in their cars. The Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2030 envisions a Rail Transit System for Kapolei to Manoa/Waikiki as the backbone of that transit system. Rail Transit will work together with land use policies to help shape Oahu.

### **A Rail System will make Honolulu even more livable, by bringing new opportunities and businesses to communities:**

- The Rail System plan encourages smart growth and complete streets around transit stations, including more walkable, bike-able and livable areas.
- A Rail System will bring extended families closer together, while keeping Oahu's country, "country."
- Transit Oriented Development (TOD) brings retail shops, entertainment, housing, and other growth activities to areas surrounding the stations. That's good for communities and the local tax base.

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